

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT
Brenntag HCl Spill - Removal Polrep
Initial and Final Removal Polrep



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Region IV

Subject: POLREP #1
First and Final
Brenntag HCl Spill
C4E6
Charlotte, NC
Latitude: 35.1255150 Longitude: -80.9584580

To: James Webster, USEPA R4 ERRPPB
Jim Bateson, NCDENR

From: Kenneth Rhame, FOSC

Date: 5/1/2020

Reporting Period: April 29 to May 1 2020

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Site Number:	C4E6	Contract Number:	
D.O. Number:		Action Memo Date:	
Response Authority:	CERCLA	Response Type:	Emergency
Response Lead:	PRP	Incident Category:	Removal Action
NPL Status:	Non NPL	Operable Unit:	
Mobilization Date:	4/29/2020	Start Date:	4/29/2020
Demob Date:	5/1/2020	Completion Date:	5/1/2020
CERCLIS ID:		RCRIS ID:	
ERNS No.:		State Notification:	
FPN#:		Reimbursable Account #:	

1.1.1 Incident Category

CERCLA
Emergency Response

1.1.2 Site Description

Bulk Chemical Manufacturing Facility

1.1.2.1 Location

Brenntag Chemical
11750 Fruehauf Rd
Charlotte, NC 28273
Mecklenburg County

1.1.2.2 Description of Threat

A 5,000-gallon Hydrochloric Acid (HCL) release impacting surface water that is a tributary to Steele Creek. Hydrochloric Acid is a hazardous substance listed in 40 CFR 302.4.

1.1.3 Preliminary Removal Assessment/Removal Site Inspection Results

At 9:12hrs on 4/29/2020, a full tank car of 31.5% HCl began leaking from a top valve during offloading operations. Car pressurization used for offloading contributed to the continued release of HCl, impacting the ballast and soil around the siding. Volume estimates of the product released are between 1000 gallons to 5000 gallons. A response contractor was mobilized to begin recovery and cleanup. Environmental impact was observed in the adjacent creek. Approximately 200 yards of creek was impacted, displaying a pH measurement of 2. An EPA On-Scene Coordinator was deployed to oversee the response operations.

2. Current Activities

2.1 Operations Section

2.1.1 Narrative

A hazardous material company of the Charlotte Fire Department responded to the release and constructed berms to prevent the discharge to the stormwater drain. The fire department conducted an entry and stopped the release from the tank car. The City of Charlotte Water Department responded, and installed a dam in the creek. The release flowed over a gravel parking lot to the creek; the Charlotte Fire Department applied dry soda ash, which was staged at the facility. The parking lot is being excavated. The creek has been dammed at both an upstream and downstream end; recovery efforts focused on removing impacted water from the creek and containing/removing HCl and impacted soils from the parking lot. Due to a storm event, the dams breached at 1 am. The pH of the stream at the time of the breach was approximately 5.8.

On April 30, response actions focused on removing the contaminated soil/grave from the parking lot. The semi-trailers were decontaminated and removed prior to excavating impacted soils under them.

2.1.2 Response Actions to Date

Surface water was pumped from the creek prior to storms, 12,000 to 14,000 gallons collected.
Pools of HCl was pumped from the parking lot, approximately 9,000 gallons.
Contaminated gravel and soil was removed from parking lot and placed in roll-off boxes.

2.1.3 Enforcement Activities, Identity of Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs)

Brenntag Chemical

2.1.4 Progress Metrics

<i>Waste Stream</i>	<i>Medium</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Manifest #</i>	<i>Treatment</i>	<i>Disposal</i>

2.2 Planning Section

2.2.1 Anticipated Activities

Continue excavating contaminated soils and gravel.

2.2.1.1 Planned Response Activities

Proper Transportation and Disposal.

2.2.1.2 Next Steps

Document Disposal.

2.2.2 Issues

N/A

2.3 Logistics Section

No information available at this time.

2.4 Finance Section

No information available at this time.

2.5 Other Command Staff

No information available at this time.

3. Participating Entities

No information available at this time.

4. Personnel On Site

No information available at this time.

5. Definition of Terms

No information available at this time.

6. Additional sources of information

No information available at this time.

7. Situational Reference Materials

No information available at this time.